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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/985,871

Examiner

Tony Mahmoudi

Applicant(s)

SHERWOOD, AMY L.

Art Unit

2165

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment filed on 08-August-2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-23 and 25-31, re-numbered as claims 1-30.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted:
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


JEFFREY GAFFIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

Remarks

1. In response to the amendment filed on 08-August-2005, claim 24 has been canceled and claims 1-2, 9, 13, 17, 19, 21 and 25 have been amended per applicant's request. Therefore, claims 1-23 and 25-31 are pending in the application, of which, claims 1, 13, 19, 21 and 25 are presented in independent form.

Allowance

2. Claims 1-23 and 25-31 are allowed over the prior art made of record.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The applicant's amendment, filed on 08-August-2005 overcome the cited prior art with respect to the independent claims. Independent claims 1, 13, 19, 21 and 25 have all been amended to recite a "mutually exclusive" relationship between the "current database" and the "historical database", indicating that the "further information in the historical database does not exist in the current database and vice versa".

The prior art of record, Andrews et al (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0077998 A1), Hickman et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,609,090), Seestrom et al (U.S. Publication No. 2002/0147731 A1), and Okura (U.S. Patent No. 5,829,003), do not disclose, teach, or suggest the claimed limitations of (in combination with all other features in the claims):

wherein further the historical database location and the current database location are in separate databases which contain mutually exclusive information;

wherein the association includes entering an explanation of the association, wherein further the one or more associated data entries reside in either databases; and

reporting the data entry satisfying the search query and the one or more associated data entries, wherein any previous entries being reported are indicated as such, as recited in independent claim 1.

establish association between one or more up-to-date data entries of the current database location and one or more outdated data entries of the historical database location, wherein further the up-to-date entries data in the current database and the outdated data entries in the historical database location are mutually exclusive sets of data entries, as recited in independent claim 13.

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a second database interface through which the personnel directory application is adapted to store a plurality of outdated data entries in a historical database, wherein the current and historical databases contain data entries that are mutually exclusive, as recited in independent claim 19.

editing the existing data entry to create a new data entry that is stored in the current database location, wherein the current database and the historical database are then mutually exclusive databases wherein further information in the historical database does not exist in the current database and vice-versa; and

reporting the copied data entry from the historical database location and the associated new data entry from the current database location, wherein the copied data entry is marked as such, as recited in independent claim 21.

associating the copied data entry at the historical database location with the replacement data entry at the current database location and any other related data entries residing in either database, wherein information in the historical database does not exist in the current database and vice versa; and

reporting the copied data entry from the historical database location, wherein the associated replacement data entry and any other associated data entries wherein the copied data entry is marked as such, as recited in independent claim 25.

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Claims 2-12 are allowed over the prior art made of record as dependents of allowed independent claim 1.

Claims 14-18 are allowed over the prior art made of record as dependents of allowed independent claim 13.

Claim 20 is allowed over the prior art made of record as dependent of allowed independent claim 19.

Claims 22-23 are allowed over the prior art made of record as dependents of allowed independent claim 21.

Claims 26-31 are allowed over the prior art made of record as dependents of allowed independent claim 25.

Conclusion

4. Any inquiries concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tony Mahmoudi whose telephone number is (571) 272-4078. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays-Fridays from 08:00 am to 04:30 pm.

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September 23, 2005

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Mahmoudi', is written over the bottom right portion of the page.